

Docket No.: 230114US26

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/616,906
Applicants: Michael E. BAUSCH, et al.
Filing Date: July 11, 2003
For: DEVELOPER CARTRIDGE INCLUDING SEALING
GASKET
Group Art Unit: 2852
Examiner: LEE, SUSAN SHUK YIN

SIR:

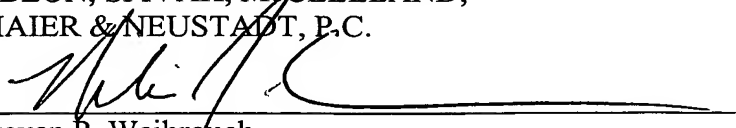
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Our credit card payment form in the amount of **-\$0.00-** is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

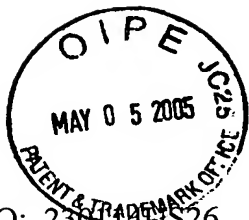

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DOCKET NO: 23014US26

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
MICHAEL E. BAUSCH, ET AL. : EXAMINER: LEE, SUSAN SHUK YIN
SERIAL NO: 10/616,906 :
FILED: JULY 11, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2852
FOR: DEVELOPER CARTRIDGE :
INCLUDING SEALING GASKET :

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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SIR:

The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance included at pages 2 and 3 of the Notice of Allowance mailed February 8, 2005, states that "[t]he primary reason of allowance of claims 18-22 is the inclusion of a method of directly moving a first cover along a first direction from a closed position for no delivery of the developer to an open position for delivery of the developer; and indirectly moving a second cover in contact with the developer along the first direction from the closed position to the open position. The movement of the second cover is done by way of the first cooperating features of the first and second covers after the first cover has been moved a distance in the first direction." Applicants respectfully assert, however, that Claims 18-22 do not recite moving a first cover "along a first direction," moving a second cover "along the first direction," and that "movement of the second cover is done by way of the first cooperating features of the first and second covers after the first cover has been moved a distance in the first direction." Thus, Applicants respectfully assert that the statement mischaracterizes the invention in unduly narrow terms that are not

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Reply to Notice of Allowance of February 8, 2005

consistent with the actual claim language. Rather it is asserted that Claims 18-22 are allowable for the claimed features of directly moving a first cover and indirectly moving a second cover via stepped portions.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 18-22 are understood so as not to require the respective features.

It is further respectfully asserted that Claims 1-15 are allowable for the claimed features of a sealing gasket, as well as for the reasons set forth in the Notice of Allowance.

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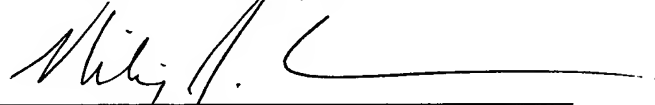
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